

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method of accurately processing a discrete time input signal,  $p(n)$ , having a first clock rate into a discrete time output signal having a second clock rate, comprising the steps of:
  - delta filtering the input signal to produce an intermediate signal having the first clock rate; and
  - delta interpolating the intermediate signal to produce the output signal, whereby computational errors are minimized.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said delta filtering step comprises:
  - calculating an input delta signal,  $d(n)$ , according to  $d(n) = p(n) - p_i$ , wherein  $p_i$  is an initial value of  $p(n)$ ;
  - generating a filtered delta signal  $f(n)$  from  $d(n)$ ; and
  - adding  $p_i$  to  $f(n)$ , thereby generating the intermediate signal.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said generating step comprises the step of generating a finite impulse response (FIR) filtered delta signal  $f(n)$  from  $d(n)$ .
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said delta interpolating step comprises the steps of:
  - upsampling the intermediate signal to the second clock rate;
  - calculating an upsampled intermediate delta signal,  $u(n)$ , according to  $u(n) = i(n) - p_i$ , wherein  $i(n)$  is the upsampled intermediate signal and  $p_i$  is an initial value of  $p(n)$ ;
  - generating a filtered intermediate delta signal  $g(n)$  from  $u(n)$ ; and
  - adding  $p_i$  to  $g(n)$ , thereby generating the output signal.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said generating step comprises the step of generating a finite impulse response (FIR) filtered intermediate delta signal  $g(n)$  from  $u(n)$ .

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said generating step comprises the step of generating a Lagrange finite impulse response (FIR) filtered intermediate delta signal  $g(n)$  from  $u(n)$ .
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the second clock rate is an integer multiple of the first clock rate.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the input signal is a position signal.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the output signal is sent to a control system that controls a photolithography scanning operation.
10. A system for accurately processing a discrete time input signal,  $p(n)$ , having a first clock rate into a discrete time output signal having a second clock rate, comprising:
  - means for delta filtering the input signal to produce an intermediate signal having the first clock rate; and
  - means for delta interpolating the intermediate signal to produce the output signal,
  - whereby computational errors are minimized.
11. The system of claim 10, wherein said delta filtering means comprises:
  - means for calculating an input delta signal,  $d(n)$ , according to  $d(n) = p(n) - p_i$ , wherein  $p_i$  is an initial value of  $p(n)$ ;
  - means for generating a filtered delta signal  $f(n)$  from  $d(n)$ ; and
  - means for adding  $p_i$  to  $f(n)$ , thereby generating the intermediate signal.
12. The system of claim 11, wherein said generating means comprises means for generating a finite impulse response (FIR) filtered delta signal  $f(n)$  from  $d(n)$ .

13. The system of claim 10, wherein said delta interpolating means comprises:

means for upsampling the intermediate signal to the second clock rate;

means for calculating an upsampled intermediate delta signal,  $u(n)$ , according to  $u(n) = i(n) - p_i$ , wherein  $i(n)$  is the upsampled intermediate signal and  $p_i$  is an initial value of  $p(n)$ ;

means for generating a filtered intermediate delta signal  $g(n)$  from  $u(n)$ ; and

means for adding  $p_i$  to  $g(n)$ , thereby generating the output signal.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein said generating means comprises means for generating a finite impulse response (FIR) filtered intermediate delta signal  $g(n)$  from  $u(n)$ .

15. The system of claim 14, wherein said generating means comprises means for generating a Lagrange finite impulse response (FIR) filtered intermediate delta signal  $g(n)$  from  $u(n)$ .

16. The system of claim 10, wherein the second clock rate is an integer multiple of the first clock rate.

17. The system of claim 10, wherein the input signal is a position signal.

18. The system of claim 10, wherein the output signal is sent to a control system that controls a photolithography scanning operation.